

THE ROCK CYCLE

WEATHERING

Over time weathering in the form of wind, rain or snow breaks rocks down into pieces

EROSION

Rocks are also broken down by the freezing and thawing of ice and by living organisms

SOLIDIFICATION

The liquid surface, rock lava, from the Earth's interior cools and solidifies to form igneous rock

Rock pieces settle as sand, mud or pebbles on the coast

The particles get carried into the sea and settle at the bottom

HEATING

Both sedimentary and metamorphic rocks can become so hot they convert to liquid rock (magma).

METAMORPHISM

The heat and pressure of the Earth's interior transform igneous and sedimentary rocks into metamorphic rock

VOLCANIC

Magma bursts through the Earth's surface via volcanic structures

SEDIMENTATION

Weathering erodes and transports igneous rocks to the seabed, where they are compressed and merged with others into sedimentary rocks



Igneous rock



Metamorphic rock



Sedimentary rock

